

# Umpiring

## Function:

- To ensure that each athlete is given an equal opportunity to compete fairly and perform to the best of their ability
- To act as another pair of eyes for the Referee
- To report any infringements without fear or favour and without authority to make a final decision



## What Do I Need?

- Umpiring recording sheets
- White flag or similar – used to signal "All Clear"
- Yellow flag or similar – used to signal an infringement
- Pen
- Clipboard
- Folding chair – for major meets

## Where Do I Stand?

- The Chief Umpire will allocate you to a position for one or several events
- Once allocated to a position, you may be able to sit on a stool until the Starter takes the stand and remain standing until the race is complete

## What Do I Look For?

### Laned events:

- Running out of lanes
- Running off the track
- Interfering with another athlete e.g. Jostling, pushing, tripping, cutting off

### Hurdles:

- Arms/legs into adjoining lanes
- Legs passing outside the hurdles (Lanes 1 & 8)
- Trail leg passing below the hurdle especially in 200m, 300m, 400m hurdles
- Falling into adjoining lane

### Non-laned events:

- Interfering with another athlete e.g. Jostling, pushing, tripping, cutting off
- Running off the track

### Relays:

- Dropping the baton and who picks it up
- Out of lane or off the track to recover the baton. Athletes are allowed to leave their lane or course to retrieve the dropped baton, but they must exit and re-enter at the same point so as not to decrease the distance covered. Athletes must not interfere with any other athlete whilst retrieving the baton
- Out of lanes prior to cross over point
- Interference during take-over or after baton change
- Receiving the baton before or after the take-over zone
- Interfering with another athlete e.g. jostling, pushing, tripping, cutting off

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## What Do I Do?

- When all athletes have passed your location and **no infringements** have occurred:
  - raise the “white flag” or approved method to give the “All Clear” to the Chief Umpire
- Wait for the acknowledgement by the Chief Umpire before lowering the flag/approved method
- When all athletes have passed your location and an infringement has occurred:
  - raise the “yellow flag” or approved method and keep it raised until the Chief Umpire acknowledges
  - proceed to fill in the infringement form.
- The Chief Umpire will pass the form to the Referee



## What Happens If A Mistake Is Made?

Sometimes you may make a mistake, but you have made a decision.

- Don't panic
- Don't let your mistake be known to the athletes, spectators, coaches
- Inform the Chief Umpire of your decision. It is the Track Referee who makes the final decision